

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 08345 141108Z

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ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 USIA-06 /018 W

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R 140840Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5355

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

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FOR A/SY/FO WASHDC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: REOPENING OF USIS LIBRARY ASMARA

REF: STATE 146041; ASMARA 0550; ADDIS 7060

1. PER STATE REFTEL, RSO HAS DISCUSSED FEASIBILITY OF REOPENING USIS LIBRARY IN ASMARA WITH BOTH CPAO ADDIS AND AMCONGEN ASMARA. IN ADDITION, RSO VISITED ASMARA JULY 8-11, 1975 AND SURVEYED USIS BUILDING.

2. RSO CONCURS WITH CPAO ADDIS AND AMCONGEN ASMARA DESIRE TO REOPEN USIS LIBRARY, FOR FOLLOWING REASONS: WHILE SPORADIC INSURGENT/MILITARY ACTIVITY CONTINUES IN AND AROUND ASMARA, WITH EXCEPTION OF SINGLE ATTACK ON USIS LIBRARY IN JANUARY 1975 BY PERSONS UNKNOWN, NEITHER AMERICAN CITIZENS NOR AMERICAN INSTALLATIONS HAVE BEEN SPECIFIC TARGETS OF TERRORIST ACTIVITY. ORIGINAL CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE REPRISALS BY ELF/PLF INSURGENTS AS RESULT OF U.S. APPROVAL OF 7 MILLION DOLLAR AMMUNITION RE-SUPPLY PACKAGE HAS NOT BEEN SUPPORTED BY INSURGENT ACTIVITY.

3. RSO SURVEYED USIS BUILDING AND MADE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS: (A) THAT USIS/CONGEN ASMARA MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO OBTAIN ASSURANCES FROM LOCAL POLICE AND/OR MILITARY AUTHORITIES OF TWENTY-FOUR (24) HOUR ARMED PROTECTION FOR THE USIS BUILDING; (B) THAT USIS ADDIS ORDER AND HAVE INSTALLED, MYLAR ON ALL

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GROUND FLOOR WINDOWS; (C) THAT USIS REPLACE THE PRESENT OPEN

PATTERN SHUTTERS ON THE FRONT GROUND FLOOR WINDOWS WITH STEEL SHUTTERS OF SOLID CONSTRUCTION; (D) THAT FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE ONLY THE LIBRARY PORTION OF THE BUILDING BE OPENED TO THE PUBLIC; (E) THAT STRICT PACKAGE CONTROL BE PUT INTO EFFECT AND (F) THAT THE LIBRARY FACILITIES BE REARRANGED ACCORDING TO SY GUIDELINES TO PRECLUDE CONCEALMENT OF EXPLOSIVE DEVICES.
HUMMEL

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